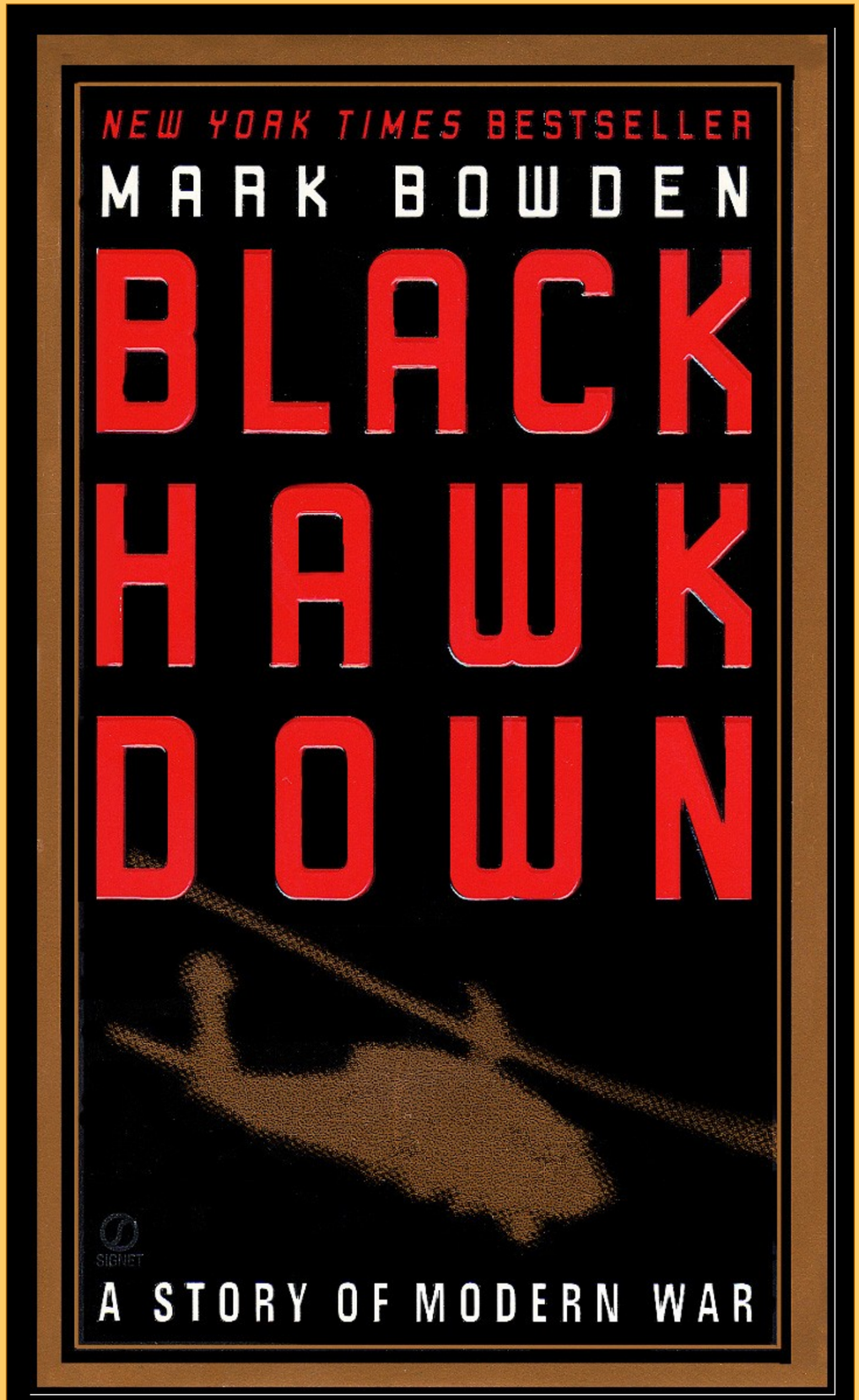
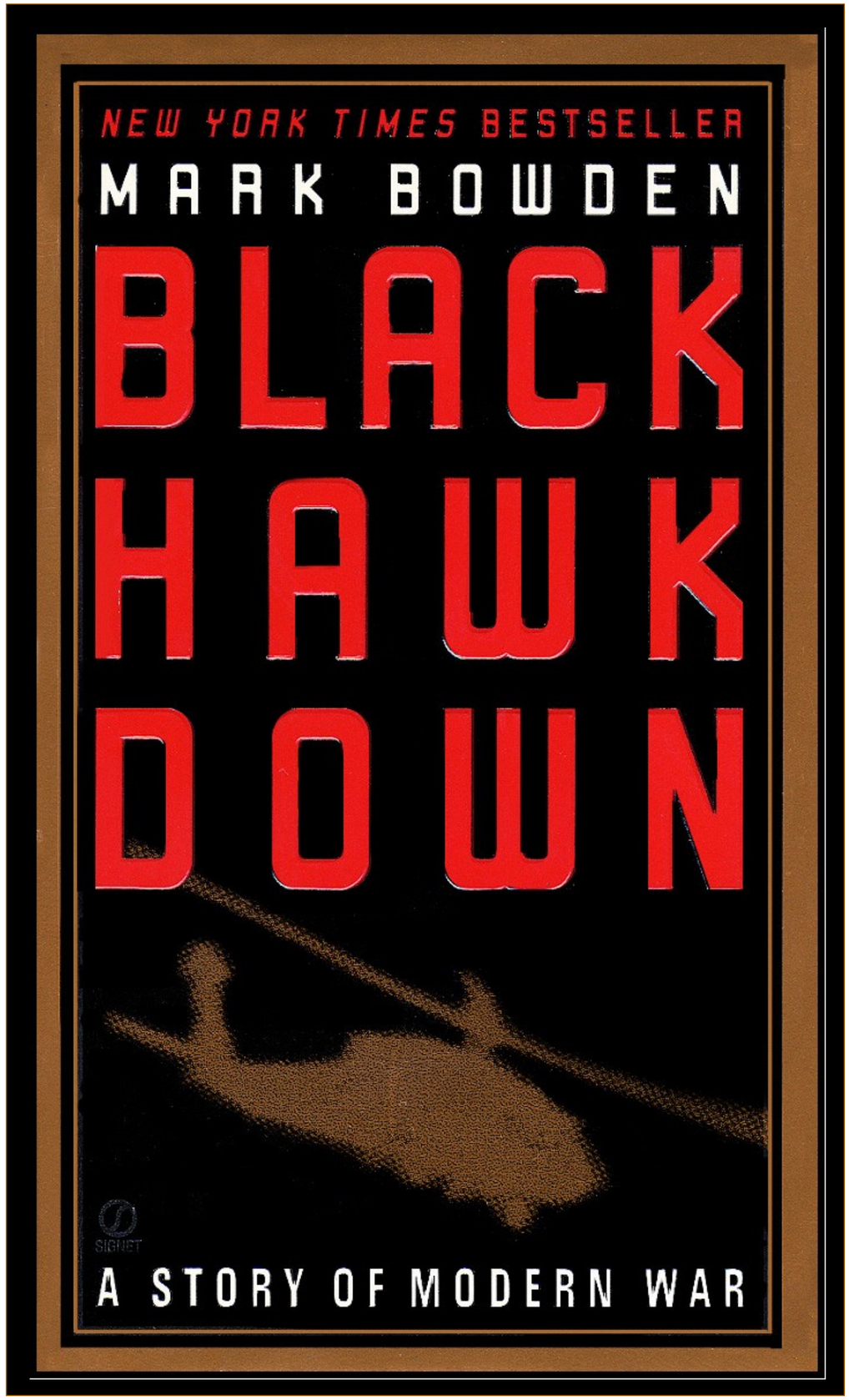


"Shortly after moonrise, Howe was startled by loud voices... over where Stebbins and Heard had been hit... He popped an earplug and listened harder. The voices were speaking Somali. They must have been half deaf like everyone else from all the explosions, and didn't realize how loud they were talking. Sometimes it took soldiers two or three days to regain full hearing after a fight."

Battle of the Black Sea

Mogadishu, Somalia

Delta Force, SFC Paul Howe



"Eversmann would be the last man out. He removed the headphones and was momentarily deafened by the noise of the helicopter and the explosions and gunfire below. Ordinarily Eversmann wore earplugs on missions, but he'd left them out today because he knew he'd have the headphones."

Battle of the Black Sea
Mogadishu, Somalia
Ranger, SSG Matt Eversmann